

Meeting	Scottish Police Authority Board Meeting
Date	28 March 2019
Location	Maryhill Burgh Halls, Glasgow
Title of Paper	Brexit Contingency Planning
Presented By	DCC Will Kerr
Recommendation to Members	For Discussion
Appendix Attached	No

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Scottish Police Authority Board on the current Police Scotland plans in relation to the UK's exit from the European Union.

The paper is submitted for **discussion**.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Scottish Police Authority on the current Police Scotland plans in relation to the UK's exit from the European Union.

2. FURTHER DETAIL ON THE REPORT TOPIC

- 2.1 Planning continues across UK policing in relation to mitigating measures which may be required to manage the consequences of the UK's exit from the EU. These measures are based on the need to plan for a period of potential significant disruption following the departure. In line with the UK Government's contingency planning assumption 'Operation Yellowhammer', Police Scotland is initially planning for this week period; a 12 week response.

3. POLICE SCOTLAND EU EXIT STRATEGY

- 3.1 Police Scotland has set the following Strategic Priorities for the Yellowhammer period;

1. To maintain law and order in Scotland and provide a lawful and proportionate policing response to any protest.
2. To protect, as far as possible, service delivery at pre Brexit levels.
3. To lead, co-ordinate and support multi-agency responses.
4. To continue to deliver transformational change across the service.
5. To support, where appropriate wider UK Policing.

- 3.2 It should be noted that this strategy is dynamic and may change as the situation in relation to Brexit develops.

4. POTENTIAL EU EXIT RELATED DEMAND

- 4.1.1 The Brexit Co-ordination Centre (BCC) was stood-up on 18 March 2019. This facility is located at the Police Scotland Area Control Room (ACR), Bilston Glen and is responsible for co-ordinating the consequence management response arrangements in Scotland.

- 4.1.2 The BCC consists of four elements, a Police Operations & Co-ordination Centre (POCC), Public Order Command Cell, an Information Co-ordination Hub and a Multi - Agency Co-ordination Centre (MACC).

4.1.3 Each element of the Brexit Co-Ordination Centre has specific functions:

- Police Tactical Command will be exercised through the **Police Operations & Co-Ordination Centre (POCC)**.
- National Public Order Command will be exercised through the Public Order Command Cell.
- National Co-Ordination of the resilience partnerships will take place in the MACC.
- All functions will be supported by the Information Co-Ordination Hub.

4.1.4 The BCC will gain, maintain and communicate accurate and timely 'situational awareness' that informs and supports sound strategic and local decision making and keeps all services users, the public and vulnerable communities safe.

4.2 Police Scotland Additional Resources

4.2.1 On 18 March 2019 Police Scotland stood-up a national reserve of Public Order (PO) trained officers as part of EU Exit contingency planning. The primary purpose of the reserve is to augment Local Policing to deliver business as usual services to communities.

4.2.2 The reserve consists of 300 Officers, based at five hubs throughout Scotland, working a shift pattern.

4.2.3 This provides a cadre of specialist officers able to respond at short notice to instances of protest or disorder and if required, support the implementation of civil contingencies or consequence management activities related to the EU Exit process.

4.2.4 A command structure and protocol for the deployment of the reserve is in place and will be managed on a daily basis in close collaboration with Local Policing Divisions.

4.3 Exercising of Co-ordination Centre

During the week commencing 18 March 2019 the BCC has undertaken a series of training and exercising programmes to ensure understanding and capability in relation to resilience direct reporting from local to national; and police and partnership co-ordination to ensure a state of readiness for EU Exit.

5. GOVERNANCE AND SCRUTINY

- 5.1 DCC Will Kerr is the Strategic Lead for Police Scotland with a supporting meeting structure. A Tactical Oversight Group currently chaired by ACC Steve Johnson exists to co-ordinate the planning, preparation and response to EU Exit across Police Scotland. A Command Structure is in place for the deployment of the Force Reserve with suitable protocols to ensure a default deployment to local policing duties up and until the point where national command is necessary.
- 5.2 The operational deployment of police officers is a matter for the Chief Constable, and it is important that his operational responsibilities are clearly understood. We recognise that this is a matter of public interest with significant implications for the policing budget. The Chief Constable will continue to report regularly to the Chair and Board of the SPA and such briefings will be accelerated as the situation develops.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are workforce costs associated with the creation of the Force Reserve, Brexit Co-Ordination Centre, Intelligence Cell functions and backfill. There are costs associated with deployment hubs. Any mutual aid costs are recoverable from host forces.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Force Reserve, Brexit Co-Ordination Centre and Intelligence Cell will utilise approximately 360 officers. These officers have been notified and given the necessary notice to allow them to be placed on appropriate shift patterns in time for EU Exit.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no legal implications.

9. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Any reputational implications have been considered and included in both the contingency and the planning considerations.

10. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no social implications.

11. COMMUNITY IMPACT

11.1 A National Community Impact Assessment has been instigated and is being managed by Police Scotland Safer Communities Department who are engaging with a broad range of community leaders and contacts across the country.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

12.1 Likewise under the process of Equality Impact Assessment, any identified inequalities will be assessed.

13. ENVIRONMENT IMPLICATIONS

13.1 There are no environmental implications.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are requested to discuss the information contained within this report.